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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/295,302 04/21/99 SCHMIDT

K 000007.00148

002779 HM12/1106
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EXAMINER

GUPTA, A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1653

DATE MAILED:

11/06/01

19

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/295,302

Applicant(s)

SCHMIDT, KARLHEINZ

Examiner

Anish Gupta

Art Unit

1653

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 August 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 8,10-15,17-21 and 23-39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 8,10-15,17-21 and 23-39 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. The amendment filed 1-4-01 is acknowledged. Claims 1-7 were canceled in the amendment and claims 8-33 were added. Claims 8-33 are pending in this application.
2. All rejections made in the previous office action are withdrawn since Applicant canceled claims 1-7. An office action on claims 8-33 follows below.
3. The terminal disclaimer filed on 8-24-01 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date of U.S. Patent 5,830,859 has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112
Second Paragraph***

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claims 8-33 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In the response filed 8-24-01, the Applicants stated that the "Applicant has amended the claims in a manner believed to overcome the rejections." Applicants amended the claims consistent with the U.S. Patent No. 5,830,859. This is not found persuasive.

It should be noted that the U.S. Patent does not recite the words which were stated to be indefinite. Namely, the U.S. Patent does not recite "structural component", "recruiting component", and "growth and/or maturation component."

In claim 31-33, it is stated that the "carrier is in the form of a body". However, it is unclear what this "body" is supposed to be.

The claims are still indefinite, rejections are maintained.

First Paragraph

6. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

7. Claims 8, 10-15, 17-21, 23-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for method of stimulating the formation of bones, does not reasonably provide enablement the reproduction of bone and production of bones. The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to enable the invention commensurate in scope with these claims for the reasons set forth in the previous office action and the reasons set forth below.

In the response filed 8-24-01, the Applicants stated that the "Applicant has amended the claims in a manner believed to overcome the rejections." Applicants amended the claims consistent with the U.S. Patent No. 5,830,859. This is not found persuasive.

The claims still recite partial production of bone. Again, the claims are broad enough to read on the reproduction of bones spontaneously. The specification, however, fails to provide ample guidance on the production and reproduction of bones spontaneously. The claims have not been amended to overcome the rejection. Note, that U.S. Patent 5,830,859 recite a method of stimulation not a method for production.

Rejection is maintained. Note that claims 8, 10-15, 17-21, 23-32 have been added to the rejection.

Double Patenting

8. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321© may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

9. Claims 8-14 and 31 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over claims 1-8 of U. S. Patent No. 5,932,207 since the claims, if allowed, would improperly extend the "right to exclude" already granted in the patent remain rejected for the reasons set forth in the previous office action and the reasons set forth below.

In the response filed 8-24-01, Applicants did not address the double patenting rejection made under 5,932,207. Since Applicants did not file terminal disclaimer to disclaim the U.S. patent or specifically point out the supposed errors in the rejection, the rejection is maintained.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anish Gupta whose telephone number is (703) 308-4001. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Low, can normally be reached on (703)308-2923. The fax phone number of this group is (703) 308-4242.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.


Anish Gupta



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